



Licensing Board for the City of Boston

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD
RE: NOTICE TO ABUTTERS

According to Black's Law Dictionary, an abutter is an "owner of adjoining land; one whose property abuts another's." As a result, in the context of Chapter 138, § 15A, applicants "for an original license under section twelve [on premise consumption alcohol license], fifteen [package store license] or thirty A [registered pharmacists' license to sell alcohol without prescription], or for a transfer of such a license from one location to another, or an applicant for a change in description," and in the context of Chapter 140, applicants seeking to operate a patio in conjunction with a common victualler license [food establishment without alcohol], are **only** required to give notice to the owners of all the properties whose boundaries touch the boundaries of the premises (front, back, left and right). The applicant may choose to notice additional persons (i.e. those across the street) but are **not** required to do so.

Please be advised that G. L. c. 138, § 15A, also requires that "every applicant for an original license under section twelve, fifteen or thirty A, or for a transfer of such a license from one location to another, or an applicant for a change in description" shall notify any schools, churches, and hospitals within 500 feet of the premises. These are not abutters; it is a separate requirement of Section 15A that **must** be complied with in addition to the abutters notice.

